

"accidental nuclear war—a post-cold war assessment." I want to share with you some of their results and conclusions:

"U.S. and Russian nuclear-weapons systems remain on high alert. This fact, combined with the aging of Russian technical systems, has recently increased the risk of an accidental nuclear attack. As a conservative estimate, an accidental, intermediate-sized launch of weapons from a single Russian submarine would result in the death of [almost] 7 million people from firestorms in 8 U.S. cities. Millions of others would [probably] be exposed to potentially lethal radiation from fallout. An agreement to remove all nuclear missiles from high-level alert status and eliminate the capability of a rapid launch would put an end to this threat."

Part of their conclusion is that "the risk of an accidental nuclear attack has increased in recent years, threatening a public health disaster of unprecedented scale."

I am one of three cosponsors of H. Con. Res. 307, a bill that proposes to address this most serious of issues. Our bill proclaims that it is in the best interest of the nation and the world to ban nuclear tests forever. The bill directs the Department of Energy, which has the responsibility for stewardship of the nuclear stockpile, to develop a program that is less costly, less provocative, and less likely to spend billions on facilities with little relevance to the safety of the arsenal.

On this day, let us recall and celebrate that our collective efforts to achieve peace have prevented the unleashing of further, nuclear horrors like those seen 53 years ago in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Yet on this day in particular, let us be reminded that we must keep on working to educate ourselves and our society, and continue to make advances toward total nuclear disarmament.

TRIBUTE TO ERNESTO "ERNIE"
AZHOCAR

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to remember a hero and leader of our community—Ernesto "Ernie" Azhocar, who died one year ago on August 18, 1997 at the age of 73. On this first anniversary of his death, we remember the many good things that Ernie did for our community, and the special ways that he touched each of lives.

Ernie was an important leader in our community, a champion of youth and education. He served as a Sweetwater Union High School district official for 13 years, as a liaison for Assemblyman Wadie P. Deddeh for 18 years, chaired the National City Lincoln Acres Community Action Council, and was a charter member and Board Chair for the Metropolitan Area Advisory Committee (MAAC). He also served on the National City Service Commission and was the Chairman of the National City Youth Athletic Association.

He was recognized in our community as both a leader and a champion of causes that are important to us. As a result of his civic activities, he was honored with the PTA National Lifetime Award, and was awarded "The Key to the City" by National City. Also because of

Ernie's extensive work with the MAAC Project, The Sweetwater Union High School District Board of Trustees named the administration center at the new National City Adult Education Center in his honor.

Ernie was born in Los Angeles in 1924, and attended local schools through high school. He then attended Military Academy in Tijuana, Mexico. In 1949, he married Maria Consuelo Aguilera, and then moved to National City. Ernie served with the United States Army in Normandy and Belgium, and also served in the National Guard and National City Police Reserve.

Ernie lives his life by his personal philosophy that "charity begins at home." He was a family man, community leader, and good friend to many of us. President and CEO of the MAAC project Roger Cazares said, "Mr. Azhocar's professional and volunteer pursuits always promoted community service, youth and education."

He dedicated his life to helping others and making our community a better place to live. His was a wonderful life. Although we have all missed him greatly in this one year, we have all had his legacy of service, love and community to carry us through, and we always will.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife and children and to the larger community who was touched by his presence. We all remember and miss him.

HONORING STEVEN AND JENNIE
GRANT ON THE OCCASION OF
THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
AND FOR OUTSTANDING
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ESTABAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend, a fellow veteran and brother from the United Auto Workers, Steven M. Grant, and his lovely wife, Jennie, on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Steven is a former recipient of the Norwalk Citizen of the Year Award for his many years of exemplary service to the community. He has served, and continues to serve, on the boards and committees of many civic and community based organizations including: Norwalk Coordinating Council; Norwalk Friends of the Library; LULAC Council #2043; Knights of Columbus Post #3678; Norwalk Mayor's Prayer Breakfast Committee; Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #7138; VFW House Committee and Color Guard; Norwalk Senior Citizens-San Antonio Club; Golden Age Senior's Club-St. Linus Catholic Church; Sierra Madre Retreat Co-Chairman St. Pius X; District Knights of Columbus-St. John Bosco Assembly 4th Degree; California Congress of Seniors and the National Council of Senior Citizens.

Even after his retirement from the Chrysler Auto plant, Steven remains committed to his brothers and sisters of the United Auto Workers (UAW). He has held the post of President and Counselor of the UAW Chrysler Retirees Local #230, Recording Secretary for the UAW Los Angeles Region Five Retirees, a member of the UAW Community on Political Action and the Federation of Retired Workers.

Steven and Jennie were married August 29, 1948, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Boyle Heights. Since 1955, they have made their home in Norwalk, California. Together they have four children: Loraine; Mary; Lucille and Steve Jr. They have eleven grandchildren: Thomas; Marie; Dex; Albert; Steven; Lucille; Stephanie; Patricia; Olivia; Drew and Derek. Also, they have six great-grandchildren: Rachel; Brianna; Ryan; Nicholas; Joselyn and Issac.

Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, August 29, 1998, Jennie and Steven will celebrate their 50 years of matrimony with their family and friends at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Santa Fe Springs. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this joyous occasion and sending our best wishes for many more years of happiness.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN ROBERT J.
GREENE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and congratulate Captain Robert Greene on a distinguished career as a Great Lakes pilot, and to wish him the best in his retirement. Our home area, from the base of Lake Huron to the Detroit River, will truly miss Capt. Greene's leadership in ensuring safe pilotage and advocating on behalf of our pilots. From the time he first sailed as a 16-year-old, Capt. Greene garnered the respect and admiration of his fellow pilots, those involved in the maritime trades along the Great Lakes and many of us in Congress.

Over the 34 years of service to the waters he loved, Capt. Greene rose from an officer to the esteemed position of President of the Lakes Pilots Association located in Port Huron, Michigan—a position to which he was elected by his fellow pilots. In addition, he served as Vice President for the Great Lakes of the American Pilots Association. The responsibilities Capt. Greene took on often led him to Washington to fight for the interests of his fellow pilots and to ensure shipping safety on the Great Lakes.

At the time of his retirement, Capt. Greene was the longest serving pilot on the Great Lakes. He first sailed in 1945 and received his first license in 1952. In 1964, he joined the ranks of Great Lakes pilots, the dedicated individuals who ensure the safe passage of foreign vessels through our Great Lakes. Capt. Greene was a leader among our pilots—ensuring safety, promoting commerce, and protecting our environment. Capt. Greene met these challenges head on and put our pilots in a strong position as we near the next century.

He also understood our lakes and their importance to our community. For those of us in Michigan, our lakes are among our most important economic and recreational resources. The need to ensure commerce can safely pass through the sometimes treacherous waters is vital to economic growth in our region. The understanding of the need to protect our waters from environmental harm is equally as crucial. Capt. Greene is one of those rare individuals who understood the importance of both needs.